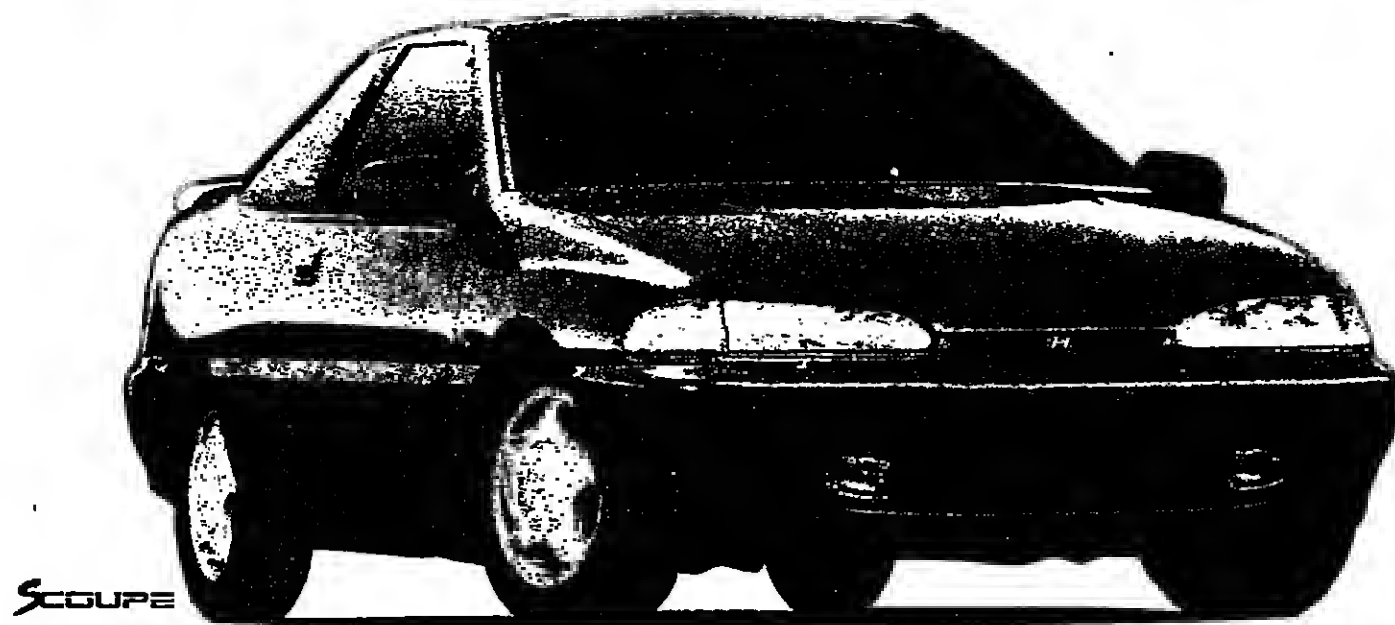


HYUNDAI '93

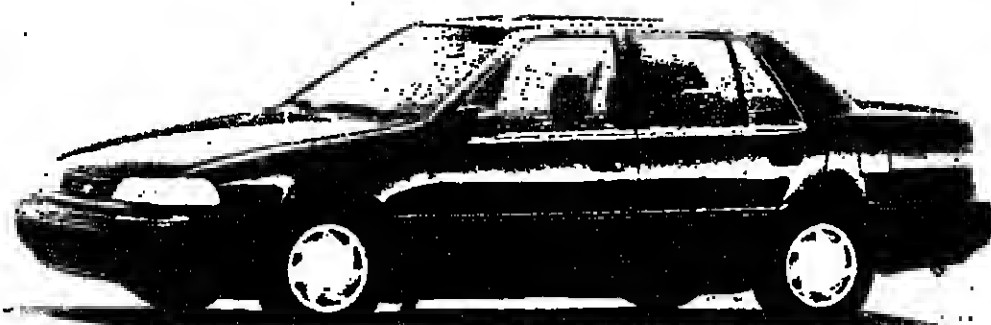
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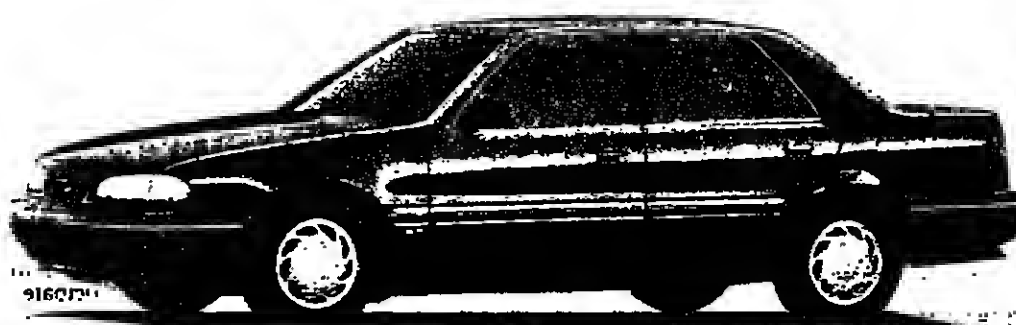
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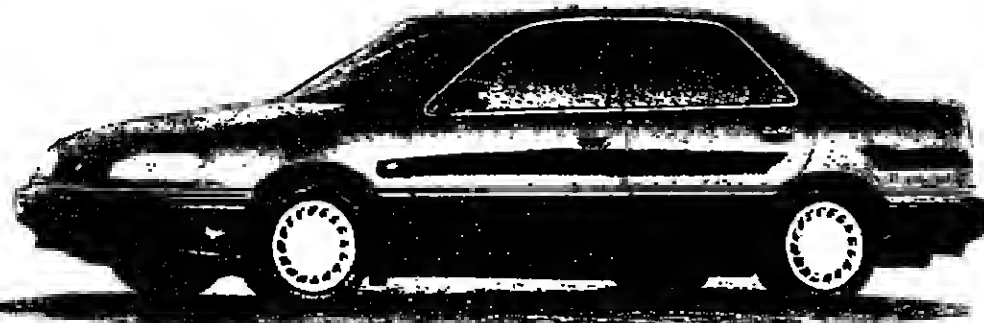
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Husseini counts on change in attitude

(Continued from page 1)

deportees expelled since 1967, who will be followed by others, and that the decision would finally make expulsions illegal. "The Palestinian delegates are sceptical about Israel's real intentions, but have nevertheless decided to submit to the Palestinian leadership's orders by going to Washington," she explained. Prior to leaving the Israeli-occupied territories, Dr. Ashrawi warned that the Washington talks were "the last chance" for peace. "If we don't achieve progress the whole thing will fall apart," she said after several Palestinian delegates received death threats. On Saturday the delegates held marathon discussions in the West Bank town of Ramallah and set aside differences to head for the negotiations after a four-month suspension triggered by Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians in mid-December.

Delegation chief Haidar Abdul Shafi was to leave from Israel's Tel Aviv airport for Washington, a Palestinian source said. Dr. Abdul Shafi announced after the meeting that despite differences between the delegates and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), his team would participate in the talks. "I am not very optimistic," Haidar Abdul Shafi told Israel army radio Sunday. "Nevertheless, it does no harm to test Israel's willingness for making peace on equitable and fair terms."

Nayer Hawatmeh, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the PLO's three main groups, said Sunday that the delegation had put three conditions for its participation to the PLO.

It demanded the right to withdraw if no progress is made during the negotiations.

It also rejected a U.S. proposal for uninterrupted negotiations, and the need to organise a national Palestinian dialogue.

Dr. Ashrawi also said the talks will be "a real test of Israeli intentions."

"We've received promises from the Americans and the Israelis, and we expect them to be implemented immediately," she said.

"We're expecting to see substantive approaches and proposals and a change in the Israeli position, either in the negotiating room or in their behaviour on the ground," she said.

Asked if the Palestinians will pull out if Israel does not produce, she said: "We'll have to play it by ear."

Dr. Erakat, asked why he was going back to Washington if he felt it was futile, said: "I follow the orders of my leadership. It's also in our interest not to break Arab ranks."

Two delegates — Ghassan Khattib and Samir Abdullah of the Palestine Peoples (Communist) Party — are refusing to go to Washington.

Peace talks 'final battle' — Rabin

(Continued from page 1)

team.

He said he hoped giving them a strong role in the investments would help attract other Arab funds. The government has said previously the funding would come from earlier taxes paid by the Palestinians.

Mr. Rabin told the Israeli delegation to the peace talks to show flexibility in Washington particularly over the questions of land and water.

"It's now or never," a senior Israeli official told AFP. "We cannot allow the talks to get bogged down otherwise they could be finished. Prime Minister Rabin knows this."

Israel expects pressure from every side to ensure enough achievement to keep the talks on track, the official said, adding that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was among those pressing for concrete gestures.

Mr. Rabin has pledged "concessions" to entice the Palestinians back to the talks, but many delegates have dismissed the offers as insufficient.

Among the gestures, outlined in a letter last month to U.S. Secre-

tary of State Warren Christopher, Mr. Rabin agreed to give a future Palestinian autonomy council greater legislative power over water and land to allow home some long-term exiles.

Israeli officials say 35 of the hundreds of Palestinians expelled between 1967 and 1987 will be allowed to return home next week, but the names have yet to be finalised.

The "concessions," to be announced only when the talks are back on track, would also include an easing of taxation and pumping investment money into the occupied territories.

In keeping with a Jewish tradition of mixing sorrow and joy, Israelis mourned their war dead Sunday before switching abruptly to fireworks and parties to celebrate the creation of their country.

Air raid sirens were sounded in memory of the 17,709 men and women who died in uniform in a bid between five Arab-Israeli wars.

The army and police mounted heavy security and the 25-day-old closure to the occupied territories was ordered tightened during the holiday.

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The British Council presents a seminar on the subject of business development, looking at the important steps that need to be taken to make a small business more successful. The topics covered include the importance of having a USP (unique selling point), pricing strategies, distribution channels, finding a market and using appropriate marketing practices to attract that market. The seminar will be given by Mr. Chris Conolly Smith, senior lecturer at the Kingston Business School in London. He speaks from practical experience of starting his own international business, and as an international consultant.

7 p.m., Tuesday April 27th, 1993
The British Council, Rainbow Street, First Circle, Jabal Amman.

Admission free
For more information contact the British Council on 636147/8

The British Council

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Los 400 Coups de Virgine
19:00 News in French
19:15 Magazine Sportif
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The Power that Be
21:10 Doc. "Dinosaur"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Jordan Weekly
22:40 Street Justice

PRAYER TIMES

04:27 Fajr
05:51 (Sunrise) Dufia
12:54 Dhuhur
16:13 'Asr
19:16 Maghrib
20:40 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedieh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 62785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrosimla Church Tel. 62266
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 652826, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932.
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively cold and partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain, especially in the northern parts of Jordan. Winds will be northwesterly moderate, freshening at times. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly fresh and seas wavy.

Amman Min./Max. temp. 8 / 19
Aqaba 13 / 28
Deserts 6 / 20
Jordan Valley 12 / 28

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19, Aqaba 29 Humidity readings:

Amman 54 per cent, Aqaba 22 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Fakhri Tayeh 865880
Dr. Ahmad Khamis 747684
Dr. Mahmoud Amir 893883
Dr. Abdul Aziz Taboun 658081
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637025
Nairouh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmoosani pharmacy 637660
Nairouh pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

ERBID:
Dr. Ahmad Qanu (-)
Alquds pharmacy (-)

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Fire Brigade 192, 621111, 637777
Blood Bank 831228
Highway Police 773121
Traffic Police 843402
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 658800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 843845
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/352
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 6428116
Al-Khali Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhar, J. Amman 636140
Palatine, Shmashani 664171/4
Shmoosani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667277/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajira 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 77111/26
Army, Marja 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/30
Anat Hospital 674155

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 813615
Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hiba Modern Hospital (09)999990
IBSD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)725355
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)222775
Ibn Al Nafar Hospital (02)947100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (09)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:15 Senga (RJ)

10:00 Jeddah (RJ)
10:15 Riyadh (RJ)
10:15 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
10:20 Damascus (RJ)
10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00 New Delhi (RJ)
11:00 Beirut (RJ)
11:00 Cairo (RJ)
11:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:30 Bangkok (RJ)
12:40 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
23:40 London (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 Beirut (ME)
09:15 Aden (AL)
11:25 Cairo (ME)
12:15 Khartoum (RJ)
14:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
16:35 Istanbul (TK)
21:00 Dubai (EK)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:15 Aden (AL)
06:35 Cairo (MS)
11:15 Khartoum (SU)
12:30 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
15:45 Istanbul (TK)
20:00 Dubai, Damascus (EM)
22:05 Vienna, Larnaca (OS)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:30 Beirut (RJ)
11:45 London (RJ)
12:15 London (RJ)
13:25 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:00 Doha (RJ)
21:30 Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
21:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:30 Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 700 / 700
Banana 680 / 680
Banana (Mukammal) 620 / 620
Beans 520 / 520
Cabbage 70 / 40
Carrot 150 / 80
Cauliflower 200 / 150
Cucumbers (large) 120 / 80
Cucumbers (small) 250 / 150
Eggplant 250 / 150
Garlic 200 / 200
Grapes 240 / 180
Lemon 560 / 430
Marrow (large) 90 / 30
Marrow (small) 170 / 80
Mint 150 / 80
Onion (dry) 130 / 120
Onion (green) 300 / 200
Orange 330 / 250
Pepper (hot) 240 / 160
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 180
Peanut 180 / 170
Spinach 570 / 350
Squash 320 / 200

Home News

Islamic Action Front says the U.S. 'evil hand' imposes a siege on Aqaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Islamic Action Front (IAF) party Sunday attacked the United States for its continued blockade of Aqaba seaport and the inspection of commercial ships, including those loaded with paper for the press. In a statement issued Sunday, the IAF said "the U.S. evil hand has stretched to Jordan to impose a siege on Aqaba seaport."

It (the U.S.) is still pursuing the policy of searching commercial ships, even those carrying paper for the press, in an attempt to influence the freedom of expression and the democratic march."

The statement added "while America nurtures and protects Zionism and is serving as its strategic ally, it is putting pressure on Arab countries bordering Israel to attend the ninth round of Arab-Israeli peace talks, despite the failure of all previous rounds." The front said the U.S.

was acting as the one and only master "who owns the sea, the land and the air" and that it is trying to subjugate the will of people.

This is a new colonialism which we reject, and call on all nations of the world to resist," the statement said.

The IAF said it considered the blockade of Aqaba and the inspection of all ships bound for this part as an intervention in Jordan's national sovereignty; "an insult to the dignity of the Jordanian people and a flagrant intervention in Jordan's internal affairs."

The statement noted that the U.S. measures are a "declaration of war on Jordan's economy and the people's moral."

It called on the U.S. to stop its aggression and intervention and urged the government to "adopt a firm stand to defend the dignity

of the Jordanian people."

"Subjugation to the U.S. policy, and its tempting and terrifying methods to force the Arab countries bordering Israel, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to attend the ninth round of peace talks is a political mistake," the statement said.

It urged the PLO leadership to withdraw from the Arab-Israeli negotiations, describing them as "elusive and mirage-like."

It also called on the Jordanian people, the Arab and Islamic nations and the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories to confront the policy of normalisation "which the U.S. is trying to impose on our people, just to serve the Zionist objectives and to ensure Israel's expansion at the expense of Arab land, and the future of the Arab Nation."

Crown Prince urges data coordination by development institutions for orphans



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday chats with children outside the temporary headquarters of the Orphans' Funds Development Corporation (Petra photo)

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday opened the temporary headquarters of the Orphans' Funds Development Corporation (OFDC), where he was received by the Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki, the corporation's Director General Abdul Salam Al Abbadi and members of the OFDC board of directors.

Prince Hassan chaired a meeting of the OFDC board and listened to a briefing by Dr. Abbadi on the fund's establishment and development.

The Crown Prince praised the role of the corporation in administering and developing the orphans' funds and called for enhancing this role within a comprehensive perspective.

He stressed the importance of information and data collection and called for coordination with similar institutions and centres within the framework of a national information system, to focus on humanitarian aspects.

The Crown Prince emphasised the need to draw up future plans on the basis of an overall clear database and called for avoiding the use of foreign terms, such as subject poverty and the like, because such terms present incorrect concept.

Stressing the need for directing special attention to orphans, Prince Hassan urged the finalising of the social survey, which the fund initiated in order to draw an integrated picture of this important segment of our society.

He called for rehabilitating orphans to enable them to meet the requirements of life, as part of an integrated national project for the welfare of orphans.

Prince Hassan urged speeding up the work on the Vocational Islamic Orphanage Project, adopted by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

He noted that any legal revision of the corporation's law and regulations should take place on the basis of interrelations between laws and regulations dealing with similar subjects, such as Zakat (alms), awqaf, legacy, orphans and the like.

Prince Hassan ordered the formation of a high-level specialised team to formulate a comprehensive perception on how best to develop the inter-related subjects in line with the spirit of the age.

The Crown Prince explained the dimensions of a proposal addressed to several senior officials in the Islamic world, on the formation of Arab and Islamic commission for Zakat and solidarity, saying that such an organisation can play a role in ensuring integrated development and rehabilitation for Arabs and Muslims.

Prince Hassan toured the OFDC premises and viewed an exhibition of drawings and plates depicting the corporation's achievements.

Princess Sarvath calls for the empowerment of women

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath El Hassan Friday called for the empowerment of women with the necessary education so that they could contribute positively at the familial, national and international levels and sought to correct the image of Islam in the West with regard to women's rights. She also detailed Jordan's achievements in education and women's development and rights.

In a speech delivered in Washington D. C. at the World Vision, an international relief organisation based in the United States, Princess Sarvath said an educated woman is not only one who can regulate the size of her family through informed decision-making, but one who has the knowledge to anticipate and prevent potential health hazards within the family.

Princess Sarvath discussed the socio-cultural constraints faced by women in developing countries, saying Islam in the West is portrayed as a "religion of intolerance, irredeemably oppressive for women and minorities."

"The universal call of Islam

was addressed equally to men and women, and the Koran makes no distinction between them ... Islam in its true sense can be seen as a potent force of emancipation, according to women a number of unprecedented, and for its time, surprisingly modern rights in the legal, political and civil spheres. In economic terms, it gave women the right to own private property through inheritance or work, and permitted women to retain an inheritance even after marriage," she said.

Princess Sarvath also met with Jennifer Lynn Dom, senior vice president for policy and planning at the American Red Cross. She was accompanied by President of Jordanian Red Crescent Society Mohammad Hadid.

She also held meetings with representatives of non-government organisations that were involved in relief work in Jordan during the Gulf crisis. During these meetings, Her Highness discussed Jordan's health care efforts and ways in which these organisations can contribute to the country's health care programmes.

UNESCO pushes for educating children in badia, remote areas

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has urged Jordan to take care of educating the children of the badia and rural regions of the Kingdom as part of its ongoing efforts to spread education.

Director of the Amman UNESCO office Abdul Qader Atrash told the opening session of a four-day seminar on this area of concern resolutions and recommendations passed by a UNESCO-organised international conference held in Thailand in 1990, called for such action in the Arab region.

That conference stressed the need for providing education to the less fortunate children living in remote regions, Dr. Atrash said.

The present seminar aims at offering the participating educationists the chance to debate methods that could be followed in providing good levels of education to children in the remote regions, the UNESCO official said.

Educating all citizens is a national responsibility and all sectors are invited to help out in this endeavour, Dr. Masri said.

Although the Kingdom's educational system was able, in the past years, to meet the country's educational requirement, the ministry realised five years ago that the entire educational system in Jordan needs to be overhauled to better cater to the needs posed by new challenges.



ACTING PRIME Minister Thounan Al Hindawi Sunday receives at the Prime Ministry Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Nayef Hawatmeh, Mr. Hindawi and Mr. Hawatmeh discussed the situation in the Arab World and the latest developments on the Palestinian issue. The two stressed the need to unify efforts to overcome the prevailing problems and underlined the importance of enhancing national unity in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

Minister urges Turkey to import Jordanian products

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour Sunday urged a Turkish trade delegation to increase its country's imports of Jordanian products so as to adjust the balance of trade between the two countries.

Turkey can import veterinary and pharmaceutical products, aluminium fluoride, phosphoric acid, plastic sheets and other equipment needed in drip irrigation systems, among other necessary products, said the minister at a meeting with a delegation representing the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Ensour said Turkey can also import more Jordanian products.

Bio-sciences meeting reviews Arab industry

AMMAN (Petra) — An international conference on bio-science Sunday reviewed research papers submitted by participants from Canada, Egypt, Iraq and Germany.

The Canadian paper focused on the control of bio-scientific processes in industry and pharmaceuticals.

The Egyptian and Iraqi papers

phosphate and potash to help adjust the balance of trade which is at present highly in favour of Turkey.

The Istanbul delegation later visited the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce and met its director, Ibrahim Takiuddin, for a review of the governorate's economic and trade activities.

The delegation visited the Chamber of Commerce in Irbid and met industrialists and businessmen from the governorate.

In the talks, the head of the Turkish team said the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce would do its best to increase Turkey's imports of Jordanian products.

Canada welcomes visit by businesses

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting trade delegation from the Canadian province of Quebec, led by Sam Elkas, Sunday discussed prospects of Canadian-Jordanian trade relations with members of the Canada-Jordan Business Council, headed by Mamdouh Abu Hassan.

Mr. Elkas was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that the Quebec team was trying to sound out prospects for increased levels of trade, adding that Canadian products can be sold at competitive prices in the Kingdom.

Mr. Elkas said Canada welcomes a visit to its various businesses by a Jordanian business delegation this fall to explore ways to upgrade trade exchanges.

Mr. Abu Hassan said Jordan was in need of joint Jordanian-Canadian economic ventures, benefiting from Canadian expertise.

Canadian goods manufactured in Jordan could be marketed at competitive prices throughout the Middle East, said Mr. Abu Hassan.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Freedom across frontiers

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan's call for free movement of Arab labour and capital within the Arab World is a timely and challenging initiative. In a speech delivered at the 26th session of the Council of Arab Universities Saturday, the Crown Prince submitted his proposal against the background of deep divisions and suspicions among Arabs. By addressing this bold idea to that particular forum, the Crown Prince indicated that such a step needs to be picked up first by Arab intellectuals and scholars with the hope that it can be transmitted in due course to centres of power in the various Arab countries.

But before the cream of the crop in the Arab World can be expected to spread the word, they have to look closer to home and see that the calibre of Arab higher education needs to be improved, especially qualitatively. All those connected with university education in our countries know only too well that the present quality of higher education is woefully short of expectations, and the gap between it and that in the West is growing instead of narrowing. To bridge the gap between our educational systems and those in developed countries obviously calls for an overhaul of Arab elementary and university educational criteria. Without proper elementary and secondary educational methods no university can ever hope to prepare students for meeting the challenge that our civilisational existence now faces.

Moreover, only through adequate investment in education can we hope to elevate the level of our education to where it should be. For this purpose, the Crown Prince suggested another equally bold and challenging idea, namely, to change the Arab concept of frontiers from its current archaic form into one that regards them as junctions for national networks. This has been the successful experience of the more enlightened and advanced regions of the world, where nations with even different languages and backgrounds have been able to forge a common destiny through regional cooperation and economic integration. This is in essence the framework of the new international order that Arab thinkers should understand and act on.

Yet all these ambitious ideas call for strong political will that is clearly not present in the Arab World today. Here, the spread of pluralistic democracy and respect for human rights can be of great help. Unfortunately, democracy in the Arab countries has so far been only the exception to the rule, and until it becomes a way of life for us there is going to be continuous fear that good ideas and practical programmes would remain just hopes that are not likely to see the light of the day.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

NOW THAT the Arab parties to the peace negotiations have agreed to take part in the ninth round of the bilateral talks, it remains to be seen whether Washington will keep its promises and honour its pledges of playing the role of full partner in helping the two sides reach permanent peace, said Sawt Al-Shaab daily Sunday. The Arab parties involved in the negotiations have proved to the whole world that they are not standing in the way of a settlement with Israel and have showed their keenness to attend the ninth session to give the U.S. administration and Israel another chance to end the deadlock, said the daily. The Palestinian delegation is also going to Washington despite strong opposition on the part of the Palestinian people inside the occupied Arab lands, added the paper. It said the Arabs have decided to test the real intentions of the Clinton administration, which is still to prove its stand, hoping that the new administration would shoulder its responsibility towards the establishment of peace in the Middle East. It should be noted that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher had given promises to the Arabs during his tour of the region that the Clinton administration would play the role of a full partner in the process of attaining the aspired peace, the paper recalled. It said that the Arabs have responded favourably to the Clinton administration's call to attend the resumed talks, but the Arabs now await something positive and constructive in return. The paper said that the Arabs want the U.S. administration to act fairly and neutrally and force Israel to respect the international legitimacy.

By sealing off the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Israel has de facto recognised the fact that it is not possible for it to annex the Arab territories it occupied in the 1967 war, said Tareq Masarweh in Al-Rai daily Sunday. The writer noted that the intifada and the continued struggle of the Palestinian people have forced Israel to retract its steps and no more consider the occupied lands as part of Israel proper. Only the city of Jerusalem remains under the grip of the Zionists although the Arabs in the eastern part continue to reject the occupation and continue to resist Israel's measures of annexation, the writer added. He said that by closing the occupied lands Israel has intended the move as a collective punishment for the Arab population, but the siege has reflected the results of the long struggle of the local inhabitants and made it clear to the world that Israel can no longer control the affairs of the Arab population whom it has been subjecting to repression. The Arabs, who lost their livelihoods as a result of the closure, should find in their Arab and Muslim brothers in the oil-rich Arab countries a means to ensure their existence and guarantee their struggle, demanded the writer. He said that Arab-Islamic assistance to the Palestinians is a must so as to end the Arab workers' participation in the construction of Jewish settlements.

Weekly Political Pulse

By Waleed Sadi

Confederation — a solution, but how viable?

THERE is a widespread conviction within and outside the Middle East region that Israel's decision to cut off the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israel proper is tantamount to a de facto acceptance that there is no way that Israel can keep the Palestinian territories under any guise. The resurrection of the green line between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories is therefore interpreted as an effective slap in the face of the "greater Israel" design that successive Israeli governments of all vintages have been entertaining, especially since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. If this is the inevitable conclusion, then something good emerged from the recent escalation of violence in the area. For as of March 31, 1993, the idea of Israeli permanent control of the Palestinians and their territories is dead and buried.

But where do we go from here? The first thought that comes to mind is that the Palestinian economy is nowhere near the point of self-reliance and Palestinian workers and businessmen alike must look elsewhere for gaining their livelihood. If Israel is effectively excluded from remaining an economic haven for Palestinian workers and business communities, then an effective alternative needs to be found. Given the limited resources of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the alternative must serve not only the short and intermediate needs of the area but also the long range ones. The sequence of events in the area, and the conclusions drawn from them, seem to take the Palestinians back to basics, namely, there is really no viable panacea for them except in the context of a permanent and solid Jordanian-Palestinian relationship constructed along the lines of the confederacy concept.

However, this perception is no easy matter to realise and probably would be rejected by a sizeable majority of both Jordanian and Palestinian nationalists for whom sub-identity comes ahead of every other consideration. What compounds the issue is the fact that as good as it is, the Jordanian economy is not robust enough to provide employment opportunities to some 100,000 Palestinian labourers who currently gain their livelihood in Israel proper.

For both banks to be able to meet the challenges posed by the de facto separation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israel, considerable investment needs to be initiated for both countries as a matter of highest priority. The Arab Gulf states seem now reconciled to resume material and political support to the Palestinians. This came on the eve of the resumption of the ninth round of bilateral talks in Washington between Israel and the various Arab parties, when Riyadh and other Gulf capitals announced a fresh start in support of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Within the framework of an overall Arab-Israeli settlement, aid to Jordan, from many states, including the Arab Gulf states which must have sensed that they have a stake in peace in the region after all, can be expected to resume. Under such new conditions, the confederacy idea becomes more viable than ever since it would create the proper economic and political climate for the long-term solution of the Palestinians' political as well as socio-economic needs.

The trouble is that the proponents of the confederacy formula are rather timid in pursuing their conviction about the need to forge a long-standing relationship between the two banks. The prevailing posture, even among the supporters of unity between Jordan and Palestine, is that any such plan must await the resolution of the Palestinian case first within the context of the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli bilateral peace talks.

Then and only then, we are told, can the peoples on both sides of the Jordan River exercise their right to self-determination with regard to establishing a confederation. This may be right from a legal point of view. From a political point of view, the time is ripe now to start discussing the scheme, since it may have a bearing on the fate of the Palestinian-Israeli peace negotiations. The economic and political links between Palestinians and Jordanians need to be placed in an early context in order to shed light not only on the viability of Palestinian independence and statehood but also on its economic and political security. The sooner the relationship between the two banks is put in the proper framework the clearer the vision for the future of the projected Palestinian state will be.

Agreement on autonomy a 'realistic expectation'

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Arab and Israeli communities "are gradually drawing closer together" in the Middle-East, a prominent American television newscaster said Friday. And an agreement on autonomy, he added, is seen as "a realistic expectation" by at least one Israeli official for the ninth round of Middle East peace talks due to begin here April 27.

Mike Wallace of CBS's "60 Minutes," who is internationally recognised for his coverage of Arab and Israeli affairs, pointed to an interview with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in the April 20 Jerusalem Post, in which Mr. Peres said he "expects broad agreement on Palestinian self-rule... (and) basic outlines of autonomy" will be agreed upon" in this round.

Mr. Wallace, in a panel discussion on "Media Criticism," said that while he comes from a modest Jewish family in Boston, Massachusetts, and "I believe in the state of Israel, I am not a Zionist... (and) I am equally proud and determined that there be equal coverage in this particularly prickly situation."

Mr. Wallace said that in the mid and late 1970s Americans were caught up with "the moral story of Israel" and its founding, and the news media gave it coverage because "Israel is a powerful, powerful moral story."

As he came to know Arab Americans and Arabs in the Middle East through "60 Minutes" assignments, he said, "What we began to grasp from both Arab Americans and Arabs is that they had 'quite a different moral story



people didn't understand." "You are achieving a different kind of power than you had in the past," Mr. Wallace told assembled Arab American leaders, at a forum organised by the Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), urging them to "use it wisely," to become knowledgeable about the powers and the limitations of American news media.

"You have raised the consciousness of the American media by meetings such as this," Mr. Wallace said, urging participants to focus on their local news editors and media as much as on breaking into the national media, he said, "Your story will get through to us."

Joining Mr. Wallace in the discussion were William Greider, national editor of Rolling Stone Magazine and a former editor of the Washington Post, and Saul Landau, a senior fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies who

produced the award winning film "Report from Beirut."

Mr. Greider, who had been editor of the Outlook (opinion) section of the Washington Post, said, "We need to think of ways to break up the quality of sameness" in the stories carried by the national media.

In television news reporting, he said, there is also an almost irresistible temptation to present drama, and the time constraints of television produce a misleading shorthand, such as "The Serbs are doing this — and the Croats are doing that."

"How many of you would assume that 85 per cent of the Serbian-Croatian people not involved in the fight may be deeply opposed to this ethnic cleansing and this sub-imperial land grab?" he asked, continuing, "In fact, the vast majority of the people are not involved in this." Urging the ADC to "think ab-

out alternatives in communicating," Mr. Greider said there are many ways to reach the American public without going to the national media. Moreover, he said print media has the longer lasting impact. "I remember what I read, as opposed to what I see on TV."

Mr. Greider said the cable television industry is putting an infrastructure in place that soon will offer opportunity for access "for all kinds of reporting, opinions and analyses.... It's a wide open media."

Mr. Wallace, in response to a question also noted "there is a disturbing anti-Arab bias" among Israelis with whom I have spent a good deal of time.... It is really, really deep. It's one that disturbs me — that I try to understand... similar to what I think happens in Northern Ireland. It is unreasoning. It is emotional, and something we probably do not do enough to cover." He said, "We (in the media) should help Americans to understand this anti-Arab bias."

The 1993 ADC convention, according to the organisers, drew 3000 participants from the United States, South America, Canada, Europe and the Middle East.

Among the dignitaries to speak to the convention were Secretary of State Warren Christopher; Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks; Abdul Wahab Darawshe, head of Israel's Arab Democratic Party; Rafik B. Al Hariri, prime minister of Lebanon; Simon Karam, Lebanon's ambassador to the United States; Mohammad Sacirbey, ambassador of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations; and representatives Nick Joe Rahall (Democrat-West Virginia), Don Edwards (Democrat-California) and Henry Gonzalez (Democrat-Texas).

A wobbly but fast start for Clinton in first 100 days

By Terence Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The first 100 days of Bill Clinton's presidency have been a puzzling zigzag of disarray and decisiveness, setbacks and success. It has been a wobbly start that could rob momentum from his drive for change.

Sobered by the embarrassing loss of his jobs bill in the senate, Mr. Clinton no longer boasts about "an explosive 100-day period" for his presidency. The assessment now is far more modest as Thursday's 100-day benchmark approaches.

"This country went in one direction solid for more than a decade," the president observed last week. "I've been here about 90 days. It's going to take a little while to turn it around."

White House Chief of Staff Mack McLarty echoed his boss: "You seldom feel you accomplish as much or are as far along in some ways as you would like to be."

Realistically, it is too early to pin an indelible label on Mr. Clinton or judge his presidency conclusively.

It is clear, though, that he is a smart, high-energy leader willing to work tirelessly to advance the view that government should be a major catalyst for change, rather than the stand-aside approach advocated by Ronald Reagan and George Bush.

He is a political pragmatist, willing to compromise or walk away from campaign promises as he did on a host of pledges from tax cuts for the middle class to accepting Haitian refugees.

At times, he is bold. Most presidents merely ask their wives to oversee social functions; he put Hillary Rodham Clinton in charge of developing the health care programme that could be the centerpiece — or the debacle — of his administration.

Yet Mr. Clinton badly misjudged the power of the Republican minority in the Senate, and that poses real questions about the tests yet to come: His health care reforms, raising taxes, cutting money from popular programmes, welfare reform, and campaign finance and lobbying reform. If Mr. Clinton and his majority Democrats couldn't get a modest jobs bill past Republicans, how can he hope to enact more radical legislation?

Analysts reflect the uncertainty and mixed feelings of the American public at large.

"Too many problems are coming home to roost in the White House," said Vanderbilt University political scientist Erwin Hargrove. "I wonder whether the president isn't spreading him-

self too thin." On the other hand, George Washington University historian Leo Ribuffo said: "This is the most placid hundred days since Herbert Hoover succeeded Calvin Coolidge."

By statistical measures, Mr. Clinton's overall approval rating stands at 52 per cent (according to an NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll last week), a slippage of 5 per cent in the last month. Disapproval of his job performance has climbed to 34 per cent, up eight points, the poll said.

In the microscopic scrutiny of his first days, Mr. Clinton stumbled twice: Over his choice for attorney general and then in underestimating the uproar over allowing homosexuals in the military.

Yet those mistakes were followed by a well-received address to Congress about the economy and swift passage of Mr. Clinton's ambitious plan to slash the deficit through budget cuts and higher taxes.

Then, as the administration branched out into other areas and Mr. Clinton's attention wandered from his promised "laser-like focus" on the economy, Republicans in the Senate crushed his jobs package.

On the international front, Mr. Clinton successfully spearheaded a campaign for western allies to prop up beleaguered Russian President Boris Yeltsin with a \$28-billion aid package.

But Mr. Clinton's leadership has not been enough to muster international support for a more aggressive response to the war in Bosnia after his largely diplomatic approach was roundly criticised in Congress.

Turning the country around and dismantling the conservative legacy of the Reagan-Bush era is a difficult task, made harder because Mr. Clinton has failed to fill hundreds of key jobs throughout government.

There's no drug czar to craft a drug policy, no AIDS czar to write an AIDS strategy. Republican holdovers, who were sympathetic to Clinton's early policy-making agencies.

Mr. Clinton's fellow Democrats control both houses of Congress but there is none of the party discipline and direction on Capitol Hill that made Franklin D. Roosevelt's first 100 days such a blazing success. Since Roosevelt set the standard, no president — Mr. Clinton included — has come close.

For Mr. Clinton, the real tests will come in the second 100 days, and the 100 days after that.

LETTERS

Justice in education

To the Editor:

Passing tajwibi with the highest score is the target of almost every student. But has anyone had a second thought about justice in the qualification and preparation of the student?

There is a vast difference between the facilities offered to students studying in public schools in cities and students in remote areas.

For example, books supplied to students always run short or a television set is not available, while in city public schools television sets, tape-recorders and other such facilities are always on hand.

Teachers are appointed for a couple of semesters in remote areas; there they practise their amateur skills on the students. As a result, the students suffer and later this affects their passing grades.

Once the new teacher has started settling down, he or she is transferred to a bigger town or city school. Some teachers are transferred almost every semester. Does anyone ever think about the students? The students in remote areas have to get accustomed to and adjust to a new teacher almost every year and sometimes every semester. A new teacher takes at least three or four months to settle down and to know his students' abilities. But the teacher's transfer changes the balance every time.

Another very serious situation is when a teacher conducts two different classes in the same room. The teacher divides his or her abilities and attention between the two. Even students cannot concentrate because of two classes held in one room.

When the students reach the 12th grade and sit for the tajwibi exams, all are asked the same kind of questions. And everybody expects the students from remote areas to score as well as those from the cities.

I would also like to urge the university authorities to take into consideration all the above-mentioned problems faced by students from remote areas while admitting them to these institutions of higher education.

I expect the government to look into this matter and see to it that justice in education is guaranteed to all students.

Khalid Mohammed Odeh,
Al Khaldiya Pharmacy,
Mafraq.

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Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

East. Al Baath, the newspaper of the ruling Baath Party, said Mr. Christopher's statement Friday was an encouraging prelude to the peace talks.

In a speech to the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee in Washington, Mr. Christopher said: "I am concerned that we not only seem even-handed, but that we act even-handed."

Commenting on his statement, Al Baath said: "Arabs did not ask the United States at any time for any stand other than the one made by Christopher. Arabs have always called for a neutral U.S. position which is not biased towards Israel."

In Washington, U.S. officials urged all sides to strive for a breakthrough in the peace talks and a real sense of optimism that one could occur.

"We're heartened by the fact that the parties are returning to the table because it demonstrates that each still sees that their best interests are served by negotiations," one senior U.S. official said.

"The Palestinians can't afford to go home this time with nothing," said one Middle East diplomat in Washington.

Some analysts believe a breakthrough could come first in the Israeli-Syrian negotiations.

Despite the increase in violence in Israel and the territories since the talks broke down there is a real sense of optimism now.

For the first time everything is in place—an Israeli prime minister ready to do business, an American president determined to play an active role. A Palestinian delegation that sees no alternative to negotiations and a Syrian government determined to see if it can get its land back.

Egypt

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Metwally said work was also under way to link the area into Egypt's telephone network.

Gen. Bashir said Saturday he would go ahead with peace talks with southern rebels scheduled for Monday despite the discovery of the "plot" to oust his government.

The talks are to resume in the Nigerian capital Abuja, where a first round of negotiations to end the 10-year civil war broke down last June.

Gen. Bashir said his government was committed to a negoti-

ated settlement with the Sudan People's Liberation Army, "even though we could inflict a severe blow on the rebels."

The allegations of a coup plot backed by Egypt were a sign Khartoum's military-led government expected the Abuja talks to break down quickly, diplomats and sources said.

Sudan had been banking on fierce SPLA in-fighting and its own conciliatory moves towards greater autonomy in the south to weaken Col. Garang's position and at least draw him into a prolonged negotiating process, the diplomats said.

But a stream of positive statements about the talks in Sudan's state media dried up last week

after Col. Garang met northern Sudanese opposition leaders in Nairobi and laid the basis for a working alliance with them.

"They (government leaders) are quite sure now that this meeting is going to fail. Suddenly they discover the opposition is coordinating and that Garang will not be alone," said one diplomat. "I think they're preparing the ground at home for a breakdown in the talks."

Gen. Bashir Sunday renewed a general amnesty declaration to all Sudanese who have carried arms against the government, and invited them to come home and take part in national reconstruction.

Saleh

(Continued from page 1)

date and the son of a candidate from Yemeni Gathering for Reform (YGR), the biggest Islamic opposition party.

Five people were killed, includ-

ing the GPC candidate, Yahya Ahmad Al Sha'abi, when fighting broke out after his car collided with another driven by the son of the YGR candidate.

"The event is merely personal and has nothing to do with the political side," Mr. Saleh said. He said economic problems

caused by the expulsion of one million Yemeni expatriate workers from Saudi Arabia in 1990 "will not be a bomb to inflict harm to the unity and democracy as some imagined."

Mr. Saleh reiterated his country's demand to end U.N. sanctions against Iraq

"Yemen is committed to all U.N. resolutions, but our point... is that after the Gulf war ended, there was no need for the economic blockade on Iraq to continue especially when old people and children suffer shortage in food and medicines," he said.

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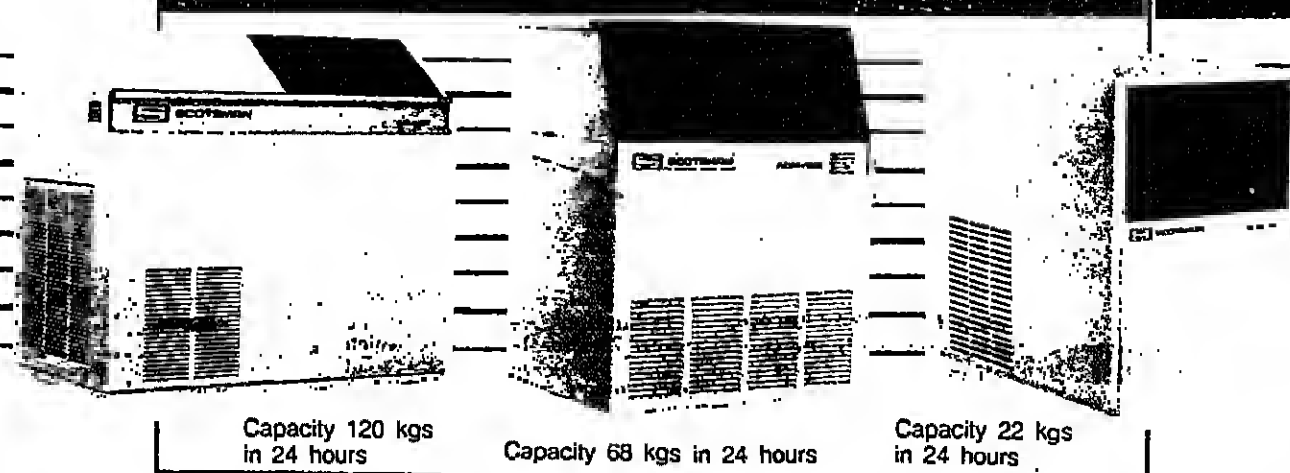
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Sanchez Vicario overcomes Martinez

BARCELONA (Agencies) — Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario swamped her doubles partner and second-seeded Conchita Martinez, taking two sets Sunday in 71 minutes to win the \$375,000 La Familia Open.

The 21-year-old Spaniard, ranked No. 3 in the world and off to a fast start this season, won 6-1, 6-4 on the clay-court surface. It was her third tournament win of the season and improved her season's match record to 31-4. Three of those losses have been to No. 1-ranked Steffi Graf of Germany.

The 21-year Martinez, ranked No. 8 in the world, rallied briefly in the second set and took a 3-2 lead after breaking Sanchez Vicario's serve. But Sanchez Vicario bounced back and won four of the next five games.

"Five finals (this season), three victories — you couldn't ask for more," Sanchez told reporters. "Things are going well and I'm very happy about it."

"To be No. 1 is still my life's dream," she added. "I'm becoming more capable of reaching it, but it will be difficult. I think I

Edberg and Korda win doubles title

Sweden's Stefan Edberg and Czech Petr Korda won the men's doubles final of the 100,000 dollar Monte Carlo Open Sunday, beating Dutch pair Paul Haarhuis and Mark Koevermans in three sets 3-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7/4).

The final was played indoors because of wind and rain. A decision on whether the men's singles final here Sunday can go ahead will be taken later Sunday.

Provis wins Malaysian title

Australia's Nicole Provis beat Ann Grossman of the United States 6-3, 6-2 in the final of the 108,000 dollar Malaysian Women's Open Sunday.

Provis, the number three seed, kept her head and stuck to her winning formula of deep groundstrokes, moving the ball well on both sides of the court.

The fourth-seeded Grossman, on the other hand, let herself get frustrated by close line calls and hit out in frustration.

Seles to play in Hamburg

World No. 1 Monica Seles, who hasn't played in a sanctioned tennis tournament for nine weeks, is taking part in the \$375,000 Kraft Tour Citizens Cup tournament in Hamburg starting Monday, organisers said.

Tournament director Guenther Sanders said Seles notified organisers late Thursday she would be playing at Hamburg's Rothenbaum stadium, which has a seating capacity of 11,000.

The news has generated new

interest and increased ticket sales for the tournament, which has been won by world No. 2 Steffi Graf of Germany six times since it first started in 1987.

Seles was defeated by Graf in the Hamburg finals two years ago 7-5, 6-7, 3-6 in an electrifying match.

The 19-year-old Serbian-born Seles, who makes her home in Florida, hasn't played in a professional tournament since she lost to Martina Navratilova in Paris on Feb. 21, when she was reported suffering from a viral infection.

Graf has also had problems recently. She was forced into a three-weeks pause after the finals at Hilton Head Island due to a knee injury.

Graf is to open open against Judith Wiesner of Austria Monday, while Seles is to meet Argentina's Bettina Fulco-Villola in first-round play.

Other top ten players taking part in Hamburg include world No. 3 Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain, No. 9 Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, and No. 10 Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere of Switzerland.



Japanese long-distance runner Mitsuyo Yoshida lets her joy show Sunday as she crosses the finish line to win the Paris Marathon (AFP photo)

Paris Marathon ends in controversy as Beblo wins

PARIS (AFP) — A thrilling Paris Marathon ended in controversy as Poland's Leszek Beblo took the title after Belay Wolashche from Ethiopia ran into officials just before a sprint finish.

The two had broken clear after 40 kilometres and were side by side with a few hundred yards to go when Wolashche appeared to be given wrong directions going round the final bend.

He ended up in the middle of a crowd of marshals while the 27-year-old Beblo raced in to win in 2hr 10min 46sec, a personal best.

The Ethiopian jogged the final yards, clearly furious and waving his arms at race officials.

Beblo said: "I would have won, despite the incident — he was struggling at the end but I was feeling very strong."

Many onlookers, however, felt that it was the Ethiopian who looked the more relaxed in the final stretch.

Third place was taken by Ali Sakhi of Algeria, while Japanese challenger Yoshito Hashiguchi,

highly rated before the race, faded badly from the half-way mark to finish in 21st position.

The race had come to the boil after the 30-kilometre mark, with regular changes of leadership.

Beblo, whose only other marathon victory came in Reims last year, seemed to have made a decisive break but he was gradually reeled in by Mexican Martin Pitayo and Wolashche.

They were then caught in turn by Portugal's Antonio Roberto, a 5,000 and 10,000 runner running his first marathon, after 35 kms (21.5 miles), as Pitayo dropped back, but Rodriguez cracked and Wolashche and Beblo attacked again just before the 40 kilometres mark.

Top British runner was Andy Green, in tenth place.

Japan's 27-year-old Mitsuyo Yoshida won her first marathon, breaking the challenge of Russian Ilyna Madejda to triumph in a personal best of 2hr 29min 16sec. Five Russians featured in the top ten.

Bruno on course for WBC title chance

BIRMINGHAM (AFP) — Heavyweight Frank Bruno stopped American Carl Williams in the 10th and last round with a ramrod right hander on Saturday evening.

Bruno, 31, and former European champion, chalked up his 36th win in 39 bouts, but his performance did little to suggest he will win his WBC World Championship bout against Britain's Lennox Lewis in September.

It was a harder fight than Bruno expected. Before the bout and certain of victory, Bruno looked ahead to his next contest to say: "I'm looking forward to the Lewis fight because I'm going to do some damage to him."

But Lewis still has to defend his crown against American Tony Tucker at Las Vegas, United States, May 8, before facing Bruno.

Just as it was looking as if Bruno would be taken the distance for only the second time,

suddenly found the monster punch which an 8,000 crowd had been waiting for all night.

It sent Williams crashing to the canvas — senses scrambled — and, when he pulled himself up at eight, referee Dave Parris spread his arms wide to halt the bout.

It was a case of Bruno doing what he had to do and get the 33-year-old Williams out of the way without too many problems.

This he did but Williams — although clearly lacking in burning ambition — showed an intense amount of determination to stay with the big British hero.

Bruno picked up the ring microphone and told the crowd: "I felt a bit rusty, Carl 'the truth' was a very dangerous opponent. Now I'm looking for Lewis. I think I can take him."

Promoter Mickey Duff added: "I thought Frank did an excellent job. Williams showed how determined he was to take Frank so far and Frank finally took the best opportunity he got."

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

O'Neal does more than just dunk a basket

EAST RUTHERFORD (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal has done some awesome things in his rookie season in the NBA. What the 7-foot-1 (2.1-metre), 301-pound (136-kilogramme) centre did to a backboard at the Meadowlands Arena Friday was really something. He tore it down on a dunk nine minutes into the Orlando Magic's game with the New Jersey Nets. This wasn't the typical glass-shattering incident but instead a total takedown, with the 24-second clock atop the basket grazing O'Neal as the backboard fell. The game was delayed 46 minutes while a new basket was installed. The 24-second clocks were placed in the corners of the court because a clock couldn't be mounted on the new backboard.

Kasparov latest victim of Moscow airport thieves

MOSCOW (R) — The luggage of world chess champion Garry Kasparov has been ransacked at a Moscow Airport and some of his belongings stolen, ITAR-TASS news agency said Sunday. It quoted a police officer at Sheremetyevo Airport as saying Kasparov's mother had reported the loss of a pair of her son's training shoes, a pullover, two track suits and a shirt. She was meeting Kasparov from a flight from Helsinki, where his wife Maria gave birth to a baby girl.

Maradona advised to retire

MADRID (AFP) — Diego Maradona's physiotherapist, Fernando Signorini, has advised the Argentine star to quit football before his back injury gets worse. Maradona's back problem is giving him a lot of pain, and he "should think seriously about retirement," said Signorini in the Spanish daily El Mundo Sunday.



Frenchman Alain Prost behind the wheel of his car (AFP photo)

Prost closes gap on Senna

IMOLA (AFP) — Frenchman Alain Prost had the last laugh Sunday as he drove away with an accident-filled San Marino Grand Prix. Prost, severely criticised for his performance in the rain-hit European Grand Prix at Donington, proved himself the master on a much drier Imola track, leaving German Michael Schumacher and Martin Brundle of Britain to head the procession in his slipstream.

His victory was all the sweeter as arch-rival Ayrton Senna failed to finish, allowing Prost to win his 46th Grand Prix and reduce the Brazilian's world championship lead to two points.

But the race, bogged in greasy conditions, proved a nightmare for first-season rookies Damon Hill and Michael Andretti, both of whom failed to finish a race that claimed 16 victims out of 25 starters.

Hill, aged 32, has started his career in the top flight cautiously, keeping a low profile as he accumulated points without taking risks.

But the young Briton led here in the early stages, despite a scare when he cut across the grass, only to spin off while in third after trying to overtake Alessandro Zanardi on the outside of a bend and losing his grip.

Andretti, a new convert from American Indycar racing and who had not completed a lap in three starts before Sunday, went out after locking his brakes during an over-ambitious manoeuvre as he tried to go into fourth past Karl Wendlinger.

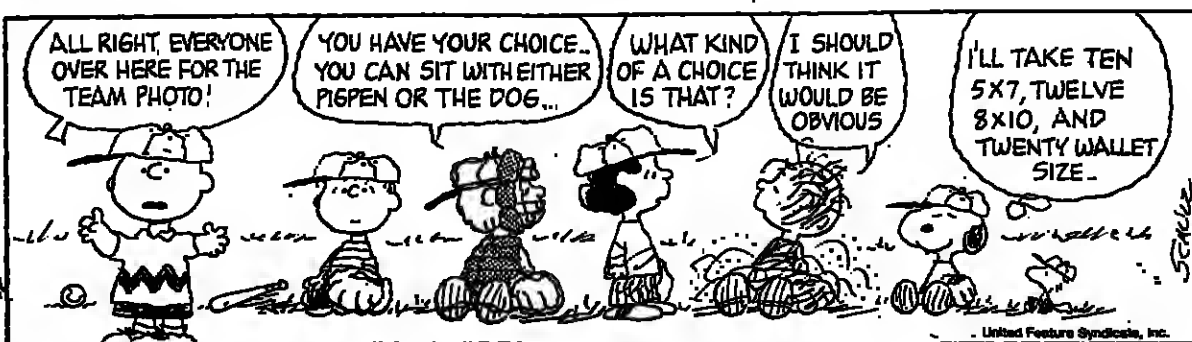
The 38-year-old Prost, starting in pole position for the fourth time this season, had immediately lost his advantage to Hill and Senna but reclaimed the lead after a series of tyre stops shuffled the order at the front of the race.

Prost, who opened his world championship campaign with victory in Kyalami, carved out a huge advantage despite the occasional interruption of light rain and eased home after Senna's retirement.

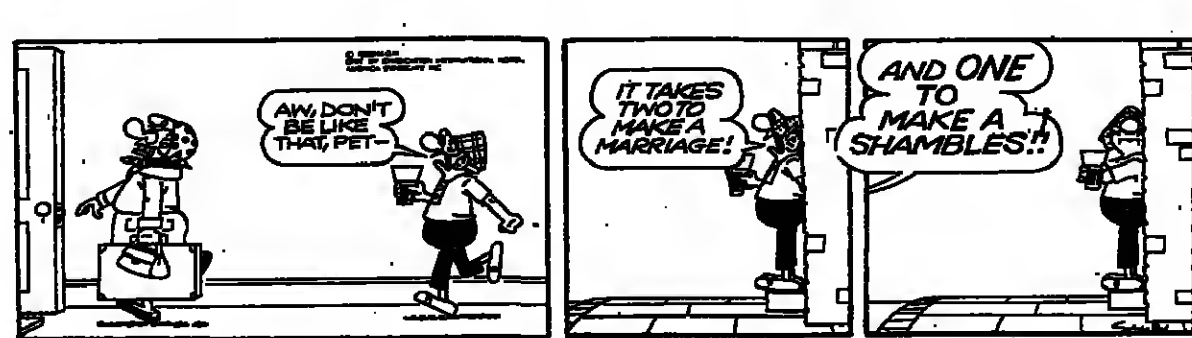
The tricky surface at the start of the race had paid to Mark Blundell, who crashed his Ligier, and Benetton's Ricardo Patrese, who spun out, before the end of the first lap.

Warwick was later a victim of a spin while both Ferraris failed, Gerhard Berger failing to leave the pits and Jean Alesi spinning off, and Italian Zanardi drove for almost half a mile with the rear of his car in flames before one of his wheels fell off.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY APRIL 26, 1993

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Uranus goes retrograde and there are many things that you wish to accomplish today that would put you in quite different position or category but now isn't the time for that kind of pioneering.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A new world that has been dawning for you can be made concrete now by doing your part of bringing it into, making it a part of your everyday life.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You see the best way by which to have a greater rapport with those with whom you have some business dealings so encourage alliance between you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) An older associate from the outside now can coordinate efforts with you towards making your various joint interests work out to mutual advantage.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Activities that have been put off by you are the media by which you can now achieve the best results so attend to them without further delay.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Recreations that have meant much to you in the past can be revived to your entertainment and enjoyment now so go after them in spirit of confidence.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Consider the various aspects of conditions at your own residence

and put into motion a course that has proven satisfaction to family again.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A good day to be off to see and enjoy longtime friends and acquaintances and to stir up more activity in daily interests in which others can be useful.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You need to look at your property and possessions now with the idea in mind of improving their value and appearance so it lasts for sometime to come.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A day when you are preoccupied, and rightly, in gaining those personal and intimate conditions that bring you a feeling of real security.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A day to think in terms of having greater breadth to your scope and activities and to plan just how you can later put this into motion.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Contact as many good friends and acquaintances as possible whom you have known for sometime and you will have real pleasure in renewing these associations.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Outdoor activities that you have not been able to complete can be revived and successfully handled today by step putting off and handling them with dispatch.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I learned something today. Fabric softener is not a good substitute for shampoo!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles; one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DESET

TRAIE

NERUNG

WARMOR

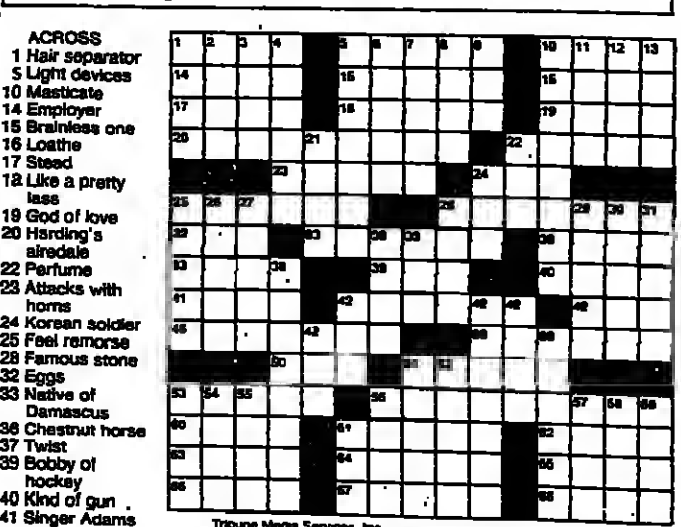


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: ELEGY TOOTH CAVORT UNSAID
Answer: A person who makes little things count — A TEACHER

THE Daily Crossword by Joan D. Berbrich



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



43 Gardner of film
44 Discovers
45 Legal holding
46 League
47 Business book
48 Race official
49 Correct
50 London, et al.
51 Kind of tile
52 Great party
53 Israeli dance
54 Perforation
55 Black
56 Peel
57 Side or
58 seed

Le Centre Culturel Français d'Amman et le Conservatoire National de Musique / Foundation Noor Al-Hussein Presentent:
المرکز الثقافي الفرنسي في عمان والموسيقى الوطنية / مؤسسة نور الحسين تقدمان:

Trio CARMENT Jazz

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29 نيسان 1993 الساعة الثامنة مساءً

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المرکز الثقافي الملكي

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• Romero Restaurant, Tel. 844227
• Philadelphia hotel, Tel. 6531007
• Rihani Stores, Tel. 693775
• The French Cultural Centre, Tel. 637009
• The National Music Conservatory, Tel. 697692

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HUSSEIN
Throne Media Services, Inc.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK ♣Q103 ♠A84 ♣QJ1062
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Dbl
Pass Pass Rdbi Pass
4 ♣ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♣ Pass ?
Game-forcing
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ1063 ♠A95 73 ♠K103
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J843 ♠763 ♠AK9 ♠952
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass ?
What do you respond?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK63 ♠Q82 ♠KJ653 ♠92
Partner opens the bidding with three hearts and East passes. What action do you take?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQJ92 ♠7 ♠AJ6 ♠AJ88
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q95 ♠6 ♠AK1063 ♠AKJ6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ 1 ♠ ?
What action do you take?

Owen in Belgrade in 11th hour bid on Bosnia peace plan

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Hours before tough new U.N. sanctions were due to come into force against Belgrade, peace mediator Lord Owen launched a last-ditch bid to persuade the Bosnian Serbs to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan.

After arriving here from meetings with Bosnian Muslim and Croatian leaders in Zagreb Saturday, Lord Owen said he could not believe that the Bosnian Serbs would refuse to sign the plan, saying it would be a tragedy if they did.

"I refuse to believe that what I heard from Dr. Karadzic was his final word," he said, referring to the refusal by Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic Saturday to agree to a compromise deal to sign the plan.

"I have got no new proposal, I have not changed the plan. It is simply a question of signing the remaining documents," he said. Lord Owen was speaking before having lunch with Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic soon after his arrival. It was possible that Mr. Karadzic would also attend the lunch, diplomatic sources said.

The ultimate decision on

whether to accept the map proposed by the Vance-Owen plan lies with the self-proclaimed Serb parliament in Bosnia, which was due to meet in the afternoon in Bijeljina, northeastern Bosnia.

But the rump Yugoslav Republic — made up of Serbia and Montenegro — is widely seen as being able to influence its Bosnian Serb cousins.

Lord Owen warned that the new U.N. sanctions — aimed at forcing the Yugoslav Serbs to put pressure on their Bosnian cousins to sign the peace plan — would be difficult to reverse once they came into force at midnight Sunday.

"At midnight, New York time, today starts a sanction regime of extreme toughness," he said, referring to a package of sanctions which would virtually isolate rump Yugoslavia.

"Once it starts, it would be very difficult to take it off," he said, adding: "It would be an absolute tragedy to present the image of the Serbs to the world that they cannot live alongside their fellow Croats and Muslims."

Lord Owen said he had returned to Belgrade at the request of Mr. Milosevic and Mr. Cosic. And he warned: "The last thing

the world wishes is to get involved in a military confrontation."

After his discussions Lord Owen was due to fly to Geneva Sunday evening, but his staff said he could remain in Belgrade longer if there were positive developments.

Meanwhile Sunday, European Community foreign ministers meeting in Maastricht, Denmark, agreed to tighten sanctions against Yugoslavia and eject Belgrade's representatives from all international forums.

The ministers, winding up a two-day meeting, also discussed taking military action against Yugoslavia to curb its support for Serb forces fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina, but went no further than agreeing not to exclude such intervention in the future.

Also Sunday, a truce signed overnight to stop fighting between Muslims and Croats in Bosnia appeared to be largely holding, underpinning an accord to renew their alliance against Bosnian Serb forces.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban agreed overnight in Zagreb to halt fighting between their forces and renew their alliance against the powerful Serb

militia, which has seized much of Bosnia's territory since the war broke out a year ago.

Separately Sunday, a U.N. Security Council delegation en route for the eastern Bosnian Muslim town of Srebrenica arrived in Tuzla, a nearby Muslim-held industrial city.

Dr. Karadzic said he would meet peace envoy Lord Owen in a final bid for compromise on a peace plan for Bosnia that would avert fresh U.N. sanctions against Yugoslavia.

Dr. Karadzic said after talks with Serbian and Yugoslav leaders he would try to make an interim agreement with Lord Owen which would be acceptable to the Bosnian Serb parliament later in the day.

Dr. Karadzic told reporters the document he would propose "would mean that only a few per cent of the boundaries of the 10 ethnic cantons proposed by the Owen plan would remain in dispute."

The European Community (EC) Sunday backed a British pledge to use force to rescue 150 Canadian U.N. troops in the besieged Bosnian town of Srebrenica if they became trapped by fighting.

Indian hijacker 'shot on tarmac'

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Paramilitary commandos stormed a hijacked Indian airliner Sunday, killing the lone Kashmiri Muslim gunman and freeing all other 140 people aboard unhurt, officials said.

The hijacker, identified as Mohammad Yusuf Shah, wanted to be flown to Afghanistan. He said he was from a militant group fighting to end Indian rule in Kashmir.

He was armed with two pistols and a grenade, hidden in crutches, said Mr. Gill, the police chief of Punjab state, where Amritsar is located.

Paramilitary officers had earlier said the hijacker was taken alive, and reporters who later entered the plane did not see any

bloodstains.

A reporter said he counted up to 15 bullet holes on the hijacker's body.

Asif Khanday, a doctor on the flight, said he saw the man being led off the plane. "He was taken down and then we heard gunshots," Dr. Khanday told reporters at Srinagar Airport, where the passengers were flown Sunday.

Other passengers concurred. They said the man claimed to be acting on orders of the commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen, the most powerful of the two dozen or so groups fighting against Indian rule in Kashmir.

flight was hijacked soon after it took off from Delhi for the northern city of Srinagar, in insurgency-torn Kashmir, Saturday afternoon.

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Pol Pot said to be more active

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AFP) — Saloth Sar, alias Pol Pot, the shadowy Khmer Rouge chief who ruled as dictator of Cambodia from 1975-1979, has become far more active in recent months, according to sources here on the Thai-Cambodian border.

The Communist chief, whose tyranny left more than one million Cambodians dead by execution, starvation and forced labour in a radical experiment to create a modern agrarian society, remains the incontestable head of the Khmer Rouge and works bogged-down to recapture power in Cambodia, sources said.

He is now based in a Thai village protected by three checkpoints manned by a special unit of the Thai army, near the town of Trat and 300 kilometres southeast of Bangkok, sources say.

From there he can easily cross the Cambodian border some 30 kilometres away, and travel north to the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Pailin, home to the diamond and sapphire mines that, with the help of Thai businessmen, provide funds for the movement.

On April 1 of this year Pol Pot went to Pailin to meet his top cadres, according to one source, and last November he visited his top henchman, "Ta Mok," known as "the butcher," in his northwestern fiefdom of Anlong Veng, the same source said.

Surrounded by mystery — most Cambodians have not heard his name since the overthrow of his government by the Vietnamese in January 1979 — the Khmer Rouge chief has used successive pseudonyms, first "Bang Pol," then "Pol Pot."

In the movement he is referred to as "Number 1 Brother" or "Number 1 Uncle," and all unit commanders refer to him by the code number "87," according to a rare recent study of the movement.

His new name is Lamoth, which is the Cambodian word for plum.

Pol Pot will be 65 on May 19, at least officially. Records in official French archives show the student Saloth Sar, who lived in Paris' 15th Arrondissement from 1949 to 1953, was born on May 19, 1928.

A smiling and affable man, Pol Pot speaks softly according to those who have met him, enlivened for some 10 years by a woman clearly younger than he is, with whom he has had a daughter and son.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope arrives in Albania

SHKODER, Albania (R) — Pope John Paul said Sunday the world should look to once-Communist Albania as proof that totalitarianism had failed abysmally. The Pope spoke at a mass on a triumphant trip to the formerly-isolated Balkan state whose Communist leader tried to erase religion. "One cannot forget what happened," the Pope said. He consecrated four new bishops entrusted with rebuilding a church crushed by decades of repression under the late Stalinist dictator Enver Hoxha. The Pope poured scorn on Hoxha's attempt to curtail Albania off from the rest of the world, saying the reformation of religion was proof that nothing could crush the human spirit. The Pope was driven to Shkoder from Tirana where he started the 12-hour visit with a moving speech at the run-down airport of Europe's poorest country. During the 100 kilometre drive on a winding, potholed road shared by cars, chickens and carts, the Pope was taken past fields where peasants were working the soil with hand tools and beasts of burden.

2 killed in Pakistan train accident

KARACHI (AP) — A high-speed passenger train jumped the tracks outside a southern village early Sunday, killing at least two people and injuring an estimated 150 others, health workers said. Rescuers flocked to the crash site in Jang Shahi, about 70 kilometres from the port city of Karachi. Health workers said at least a dozen of the injured were in critical condition.

Sri Lankan rebels deny assassination

COLOMBO (AP) — Separatist Tamil Tigers Sunday denied government accusations that they assassinated opposition leader Lalith Athulathumudali at an election rally two days ago. A statement faxed to Colombo news agencies from the rebels' London office suggested the government was to blame. "It is obvious to the people who have masterminded this murder," it said. Mr. Athulathumudali's Democratic United Liberation Front has emerged as a serious challenger in the May 17 provincial elections. The balloting is seen as a test of popularity for President Ranasinghe Premadasa, who faces an election next year. Opposition parties blamed the government for the assassination, but a senior government minister called the allegations "foul and baseless."

10 dead in U.S. tornado

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — The National Guard headed to nearby Catoosa early Sunday to begin a search-and-rescue mission after a tornado blew cars and trucks off a busy interstate and destroyed dozens of homes, killing 10 and injuring at least 50, authorities said. The twister demolished at least 80 mobile homes at a Catoosa trailer park Saturday evening, according to television reporters at the scene. A National Guard unit headed into suburban Catoosa east of Tulsa early Sunday. Tornado sirens in Tulsa started going off Saturday evening. The tornado hit a few minutes later. After destroying a church and knocking down power lines in downtown Tulsa, the twister lifted up and touched down again eight kilometres to the east, where it moved along Interstate 44 for two miles (3.2 kms) before hitting downtown Catoosa, the National Weather Service said.

200 hurt in Bangladesh clashes

DHAKA (AFP) — Police fired warning shots and tear-gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators demanding the arrest of a Muslim fundamentalist leader, injuring about 200 people, witnesses and hospital sources said. The clash occurred several metres from a high-security complex which houses most of the government ministries. Demonstrators had planned to stage a sit-in protest around the complex, but activists marched from the Dhaka University campus and tried to break through police barricades using homemade explosives, witnesses said. Police responded by firing warning shots and tear-gas, and charged the demonstrators with batons, witnesses added. Trouble spread to other areas as activists fought pitched battles with police, leaving some 200 injured, witnesses said. Police arrested more than 20 people, they added. The protest organisers are demanding the trial of fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami chief Gholam Azam for crimes allegedly committed during Bangladesh's 1971 war of independence with Pakistan.

Pakistani police teargas pro-Sharif demonstrators

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Police fired tear-gas and used batons to disperse a crowd of supporters of Pakistan's sacked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif when they tried to approach the Punjab Provincial Assembly Sunday.

The crowd was protesting against a no-confidence motion due to be moved later Sunday against Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wane, a close ally of the former premier.

Hundreds of riot police surrounding the assembly building in the centre of the ancient provincial capital of Lahore and sprayed tear-gas on a crowd of about 500 people who defied a ban on public gathering to approach the assembly.

Police beat back protesters with batons.

About 50 people were arrested and driven out of the city in trucks, witnesses and officials said.

The government has imposed a ban on gatherings of more than four people around the assembly building.

Traffic moved normally through the city centre as hundreds of riot police ringed the provincial parliament building to prevent crowds gathering before the late afternoon session.

Mr. Sharif returned to Lahore, his hometown and main powerbase, early Sunday after addressing tens of thousands of cheering supporters in Karachi.



Workmen begin the clean up operation Sunday at the seat of a bomb explosion in the City of London after a massive Irish Republican Army bomb caused damages estimated to exceed \$1.5 billion (AFP photo)

North Korea tells Russia: Mind your own business

TOKYO (AP) — Communist North Korea, reacting to Russia's concern over the North's refusal to abide by an international nuclear accord, told its former ally Saturday to mind its own business.

At the same time, the isolated, Stalinist country renewed its earlier vow not to give in to international pressure and revoke its decision last month to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The official Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, said Vice Marshal Choe Kwang, chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army (armed forces), declared that the country will wipe out the enemy if it is attacked.

The report also said Marshal Choe declared the country will take "a corresponding effective countermeasure for self-defence" if the U.N. Security Council imposes "collective sanctions" against it.

The blunt remark aimed at Moscow was made by the Korean Workers (Communist) Party newspaper Rodong Sinmun in a commentary on reports quoting Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev as saying that Russia was deeply concerned over North Korea's withdrawal from the nuclear accord.

"As is known to the world, we are actually exposed to a grave nuclear threat from the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea and Japan," the commentary contended.

"Russia... must know this. However, Russia zealously chimes in with our enemy's argument about 'nuclear suspicion' against us, while closing its eyes to and not venturing a word about the grave nuclear threat to us," said the commentary.

"Russia must not do rash acts of infringing on other's interests for its own sake but realise that minding its own business is a way of improving its own lot," it said.

Star's link to Bombay blasts unnerves 'Bollywood'

BOMBAY (AFP) — The arrest of a top Indian actor and a police probe into links between Indian moviemakers and the gangster blamed for last month's deadly bombings here have unnerved Bombay's bustling film industry.

The arrest Monday of Sunjay Dutt for illegally possessing an AK-56 rifle purchased from conspirators in the March 12 blasts that killed nearly 300 people has forced the industry to dissociate itself from the actor.

The arrest of Dutt, son of veteran actor Sunil Dutt, an MP from the ruling Congress (I) Party, stalled the release of several mega-budget productions that had earned him hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Producers estimate that losses stemming from his arrest could be around \$23 million. They said 15 films in production had been halted although the actor had been paid in advance for 20 films.

"Why should we be held to ransom for the acts of indiscretion or terrorism by artists," said an Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association spokesman.

The statement came as police began looking for actress Mandakini for alleged links with Dawood Ibrahim, considered a key figure behind the Bombay blasts along with the Muslim Memon brothers.

Up to 40 Hindi language films starring Dutt, considered India's Sylvester Stallone, have run into bad weather in the country where militant Hindus have ordered theatre owners to stop their screening.

Billboards of Dutt's films have been garlanded with shoes and posters torn down since his arrest along with two film producers who sold the assault rifle to Dutt.

IRA responsible for London bomb

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) claimed responsibility Sunday for a massive bomb that devastated London's financial centre Saturday, killing one man and wounding 44 other people.

Hundreds of people gathered at police barricades in London's financial district Sunday, waiting to view damage caused by their offices by the massive bomb. Saturday's explosion, which caused hundreds of millions of dollars damage, came after telephone warnings in the name of the IRA.

Two small bombs destroyed taxi cabs in London later Saturday, and early Sunday a former soldier died in a car bomb attack in Cookstown, Northern Ireland. Police estimated that some 100 tonnes of fertilizer-based explosives were packed into a dump truck abandoned in London's financial district, the City of London.

Windows were blown out of offices towers, including all the way to the top of the 52-story National Westminster Bank Tower, in what Police Commissioner Owen Kelly called "a blizzard of glass."

"A massive cloud of brown smoke came up and everybody just ran for their lives," said Nicholas Waddick, a British rail worker. "My staff were crying and screaming."

The News Of The World said freelance photographer Edward Henty, 34, was killed by the blast while on assignment for the tabloid newspaper.

Mr. Henty's body was found in a street near the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, "just yards" from the blast, the News Of The World said. The newspaper replaced its normal red masthead with a black one in tribute to Mr. Henty, who would have celebrated his 12th wedding anniversary Sunday.

Queen Elizabeth II sent a sympathetic message to Mr. Henty's family.

COLUMN

Author claims he found the real thing

ATLANTA (AP) — The original recipe for Coca-Cola has been called corporate America's best kept secret. Get it, the legend goes, and you can make a fortune. The company says the formula is in a bank vault, but the author of a new book claims he discovered it in company archives. "The company will tell you that's not true, it's not the original," said writer Mark Pendergrast. "You can't know for sure unless you look in that bank vault... But this is as close as anyone's come," said the freelance journalist and former librarian whose forthcoming book is called *For God, Country and Coca-Cola*. Coke's insistence on secrecy about the 107-year-old recipe flavours intrigue surrounding the world's best-selling soft drink. The Coca-Cola Co. did, in fact, deny Mr. Pendergrast's claim. The writer said he found the recipe on a yellowed piece of paper marked "X" during research for his book about the Atlanta-based company. Mr. Pendergrast spoke about the book last week from his home in Stowe, Vt. A native of Atlanta, he spent four years researching and writing the book to be published on May 4 by Charles Scribner's Sons.

Quebec to ease anti-English language laws

MONTREAL (AFP) — Quebec's governing Liberal Party was given the go-ahead by a party convention to ease its restrictive language laws which were designed to discourage the use of English. Delegates overwhelmingly approved a plan to allow businesses to have advertising in languages other than French — but signs and outdoor billboards must still be predominantly in French. The government is expected to introduce legislation next month. Saturday's vote came a few days after a United Nations Committee ruled that Quebec's banning of outside signs and advertisements in any language other than French was a violation of the rights of minorities in the French-speaking province. But the party convention voted to retain another controversial language law that stipulates children of immigrants must be taught in French-language schools, except in cases when the family is scheduled to be in the province for a short period of time.

Wanted: Kung Fu clerks

BEIJING (AFP) — Wanted: Female secretary. Good typing and dictation. Pleasant appearance. Able to subdue 90-kilogramme (200-pound) attackers. Demand is growing in China for secretaries who can fight, not to defend themselves, but to protect their male bosses, according to Sunday's official China Daily. "Female bodyguards are becoming favoured in China, especially in coastal areas," where the trendy nouveaux riches are coming up against a new wave of violent crime, the English-language newspaper said. "Employers, mostly private enterprises and foreign-invested companies, want women to work not only as bodyguards but also as secretaries and public relations officers," the report said. More than 3,000 applications flooded into the Wuhan College of Physical Education for 125 spots in a six-month bodyguard training course for women that started last week, the newspaper said.

E-n-d-i-e-s-s meetings? Japanese say throw away the chairs

TOKYO (R) — Japanese efficiency experts have a stern tip for all those who yawn through interminable meetings — get off your backsides and stand up. That way you'll get through the agenda rapidly. Leaders of the party of Yokohama are putting the idea into practice by throwing away the Civic Assembly's chairs. This will keep the city councillors on their feet, both physically and figuratively, Japanese newspapers reported, saying that from next month there will be individual rostrums but no chairs. Meetings will be held with participants standing. The daily Yomiuri Shimbun quoted the Yokohama Assembly as saying: "People are going to concentrate on the meeting without falling asleep, and besides people will probably tire more easily and want to finish the meeting quickly."